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REVIEWS.

The Cotton and Commerce of India considered in relation to the Interests of Great Britain, with Remarks on Railway Communication in the Bombay Presidency. By John Chapman. Chapman.

THE author of this work, the founder and manager of the Great Indian Peninsular Railway Company, has produced a most valuable and timely contribution to a question deeply affecting the prosperity of our oriental and manufacturing interests. Heavily written, not very clearly arranged, and encumbered with controversial engineering details which would have better formed the subject of a separate pamphlet, it is, nevertheless, a treasure of well-considered facts and arguments.

A certain, ample, steady supply of cotton has become one of the necessities of our manufacturing existence, and yet for 80 per cent. of our supply we are dependent on the United States. During the last ten years, in addition to the risks arising from war, we have been warned more than once that our supply of American cotton is liable to be seriously diminished by the chances of the seasons, and by circumstances which may render some other crop more profitable to the planter. Already, on many plantations in Louisiana, the cultivation of sugar has superseded that of cotton.

India had been a cotton-producing and cotton-manufacturing country for centuries before the North American continent was settled. We received the produce of the looms of India long before Crompton, Hargreaves, and Arkwright had perfected the inventions which, by the assistance of the genius of Watt, were destined to revolutionize the old and colonize new manufacturing districts in Great Britain. It was only within the last ten years of the eighteenth century that any considerable amount of American cotton was received in England. Up to that period our supplies of raw produce were derived from the East and West Indies, and for the succeeding twenty years the supplies from the Indian Peninsula were very large. But while the enterprise of the Americans, seconded by their magnificent natural means of conveyance, enabled them to keep pace with the gigantic strides of our steam-driven manufactories, India lagged in the race of production. Presuming the advantages of soil and climate in the two countries to be equal, the result was not extraordinary, considering that in one the undivided energies of a European race were directed toward raising that kind of produce that would realise a profit; while in the other the attentions of the languid orientals, as well as of their European rulers, were constantly distracted by rebellions and onslaughts of predatory hordes, by wars and rumours of wars. Thus it is that we find the United States, which in 1780 only sent us a few pounds of cotton, forwarded us in 1846 upwards of 380,000,000 lbs. against 66,000,000 lbs. imported from India.

Within the last few years the attention of our manufacturers and of our government has been directed to every suitable country in the world, with the view of ascertaining whether from some or all of them such a supply of cotton could not be obtained as would render us less dependent on the favourable seasons and peaceable inclinations of our American customers. Egypt, the West Indies, South

Africa, Western Africa, and Australia, have been successively considered, but without any or all of them affording such a reasonable prospect of a sufficient steady supply as would allay the apprehensions of our manufacturers. The indispensable requisites for the large supply we require are—a sufficient area of suitable soil and climate, an ample population of cheap yet skilled labourers, with economical means of land and sea conveyance. Egypt, Brazil, and the West Indies, altogether, barely yield eight per cent. of our consumption, and afford no prospect of the rapid increase required, although, in course of time, from the West Indies some additional returns may be expected. Australia and Natal have both been brought before the public as cotton-producing countries by adventurers anxious to push colonizing schemes. Australia may be dismissed at a word. Even if any considerable breadth of land in that colony should be found suitable for cotton culture, and this has never been proved, we cannot expect to see it cultivated on a large scale while the wages of unskilled labourers average three shillings a day. The seed, implements, instructors, and overseers, must all be imported, and the produce shipped on a voyage of a hundred days, when wool, which is more valuable per pound, can be grown at such infinitely less expense, without requiring any special skill on the part of the shepherds. If our government should ever decide on forming a convict colony in Northern tropical Australia, then the experiment of a cotton plantation on a large scale, cultivated by convicts—i. e., white slaves—might be worth trying. In Natal, although the reports of well-informed parties as to the favourableness of the soil and climate are encouraging, the colony is in too raw a state to lead us to expect the necessary application of capital and labour for the growth of cotton on a large scale within the next twenty years. In North America, the rapid progress was effected by slave labour. In Natal the colonists have not yet succeeded in growing sufficient food for home consumption; white labour is dear, and the large native population have yet to be trained to habits of continuous labour, and taught the art of cotton cultivation.

Under these circumstances Mr. Chapman has wisely turned his attention to India, where a vast area of a vast country is adapted to the growth of cotton fit for our market, and where the natives are not only willing to work for trifling wages, but possess an hereditary knowledge of cotton culture.

But it is objected that cheap and plentiful supplies of Indian cotton would be useless from the inferior value of the article, and that to change the agricultural produce of millions of cultivators would be a work of ages. Mr. Chapman meets this objection in a very complete manner by showing, on reliable evidence, that for seventy-five per cent. of our total cotton manufactures—that is to say, for 360 million pounds of cotton, out of our importation of 480 millions, Indian cotton at a certain price might be used without detriment to our interest; and therefore he argues that our first and obvious business is, to get as much as possible of the best cotton now grown in India, making the improvement of the higher qualities a secondary consideration hereafter.

The truth is, that for the last forty years the Directors of the East India Company have turned their attention toward establishing the

use of a better variety of cotton plant, and of improved modes of production. These efforts have failed. It is not extraordinary they should. The machinery which has proved capable of conquering and preserving a vast and distant empire, in spite of a series of wars and insurrections, has been proved, in the case of China and India, to be unsuited for vigorously pursuing the details of commercial enterprise. The single representative of the Company, who with benignant but despotic authority rules over a district as large as Yorkshire, inhabited by thousands to whom he is an alien in blood, in language, and religion, represents the irresistible power which has superseded other conquerors or despots, to whom their fathers rendered taxes, and suit, and service, under their British as under their Mahomedan rulers. In domestic life they follow their ancient ways. But if these Proconsuls, now readily obeyed, were to undertake to alter the system of ploughing, sowing, and hoeing, they would be defeated by passive resistance, by the impossibility of finding sufficient teachers for millions of pupils, and learn soon how much easier it was to tax than to teach. Therefore, while Mr. Chapman does not overlook the advantage of an improvement in the staple, he trusts rather to the effect of such a demand as would act upon and stimulate native enterprise throughout the cotton-growing districts, than upon little model farms and garden samples. At present, in the face of a native home consumption, calculated at from one to three billions of pounds weight, the whole for export to Britain only amounts to about sixty million pounds, which is almost entirely derived from the limited districts which are favourably situated for carriage to the seaports.

Mr. Chapman proves very clearly it is not for the want of the strenuous exertions of the Indian government, neither is it the land-tax nor the rent of land, which prevents the increase of cotton cultivation. With respect to the land tax, a stock grievance with some cotton orators, he shows that—

“The great cotton field of central peninsular India, where the staple is produced in large quantities, at prices varying from 1½d. to 1¾d. per lb., is for the most part under native government; its land-tax is beyond our control. There, although the impost is excessive, capricious, and exceedingly detrimental, nevertheless cotton is grown better and more cheaply, and has always been so grown, than in any other part of India.”

“It is of no use to say what any particular theory of rent would lead to, when we know already what actually takes place. There is cotton grown at 1½d. per lb., and abundance of unoccupied land ready to grow more at the same price, if there were purchasers for it. In fact, cotton is now grown and sold at prices which would make it amply profitable to bring it to England, if only there were means of conveying it to the coast in decent condition. The present modes of transport would render valueless the finest samples of sea island cotton.”

This brings us to the marrow of the subject—an investigation of the quantity of the staple which, without the aid of government speculations, is to be had at a fair price, and to the cost of bringing it to the coast in sound condition. First, then, as to the cotton-producing capabilities of India, Mr. Chapman, after shrewdly remarking that India is too often spoken and reasoned of as one country, when it is in fact a vast collection of countries extending over more than twenty degrees of latitude, varying in elevation, in seasons, and in soil, proceeds to take

a deliberate review of all those in which cotton fit for English use is or can be grown. For almost all India produces cotton of some kind or other. Out of the 12½ per cent. of our whole importations of cotton which we receive from India, 11½ per cent. comes from Bombay. Bengal does not produce cotton fit for British use. The Bundelkhand and north-western provinces grow large quantities, which is superior to that of Bengal, and more cheaply grown, but it is for the most part coarse, short, and filthy. A short staple is peculiar to dry countries. There are in patches exceptions, but the prevailing is the prevailing quality. Between Madras and Cape Comorin a moderate quantity of cotton, some of it of excellent quality from Tinnevely, may be obtained, which in the average of the last seven years shows an export of 5,000,000 lbs., part of which went to China. An experiment of sowing cotton very near the sea has been tried with every prospect of success by Mr. Lees, of Manchester, and if eventually entirely successful, might yield an additional supply not exceeding 7,000,000 lbs. Having passed in review each minor district, Mr. Chapman at length reaches that part of India where, according to a mass of evidence which he has collected and arranged, the natural advantages for the growth of cotton are such that the same results are obtained from common field culture, which in other parts of India can only be obtained from garden culture. This favoured district lies in central peninsular India, and would have for its port Bombay if proper steps were taken to open up means of conveyance from the interior to the coast. This cotton country may be defined by a line passing from east to west a little south of Baitool. The southern limit includes Bellay; on the west it is marked by the Wurdia River, a tributary of Joongbudda; on the east the line approaches the Kissna, near Kurnool, and is thus laid down on a map attached to the work under review.

It would occupy too much space to give the table by which Mr. Chapman exhibits the chief centres of the districts included in this area, which have supplied and continue to supply acceptable cotton for England. It will be enough to observe that in every case he refers to documentary evidence, in the shape of reports made by authority of the Indian Government, in support of his calculations. By these calculations he arrives at an area of 67,500 square miles, or 43,200,000 acres, exclusive of mountain-ranges, towns, beds of rivers, barren tracts, &c., applicable to the growth of cotton fit for English use:—

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But we could only take 360,000,000 of Indian cotton, of the quality at present supplied, out of the 480,000,000 we now work up, and from some other quarters we should be obliged to obtain the fine varieties required by a small part of our manufactures.

Next, as to price, Mr. Chapman shows by an elaborate table that within the area named, cotton which in England has produced from 3d. to 4½d. or 5d. per lb., was readily sold, and no doubt at a fair profit, at from 1½d. to 1¾d. per lb.

The practical question, then, to be discussed is—What has prevented the cotton of India from being sent to England under the stimulus of those prices? How is it that, while in the large markets between the Kissna and the Nerbudda, cotton which can always be had for 1½d. or 1¾d. per lb., has never found its way in sufficient quantities to Liverpool, where it would fetch from 4d. to 5d. per lb.?

The difficulty lies in the costly and insufficient means of conveyance. Mr. Chapman shows that, while since 1813 the supply of Indian cotton has been maintained, and up to a certain point increased, in the face of a fall in price equal to 10d. per lb., that diminution of gross price has only been endured by the grower through a diminution of cost in freights, in the fall of exchange, and cost of carriage. These reductions, with the exception of that of carriage, have now nearly reached their limits. Cotton is brought down to the ports of Bombay on bullocks' backs and in bullock-carts, but chiefly on bullocks' backs. Putting on one side altogether the injury and loss which falls upon the cotton-growers by such a mode of conveyance, it has in addition the formidable disadvantage of being limited in its power to a very uncertain and inconvenient extent. Supposing that the common roads were greatly improved; suppose that new defiles were cut over and through the mountain ranges or ghauts which divide the richest cotton district from the coast, still the merchants must be dependent on the number of bullocks obtainable, and on the quantity of water and forage to be had for the sustenance of the cotton caravans on the road side. As it is, in dry seasons the cattle perish, epidemics break out among them, and cotton purchased with a fair prospect of profit is run up to a ruinous price by the unexpected cost of carriage. Even under the most favourable circumstances there is, obviously, a limit to conveyance by cattle. If all the cotton which it is possible to grow at a profit at 1½d. per lb. in the district above described were grown, there are at present no means of conveying it to a port of shipment. Mr. Fenwick gives an instance occurring in 1843 (Report of Bombay Committee), in which he failed to deliver 5000 bullock-loads of cotton at Bombay through failure of carriage.

In 1846 the drought prevented the employment of bullocks enough, and consequently ships lay in the harbour of Bombay, waiting in vain for the cotton which had been bought in the interior. As a matter of calculation, it is worthy of note, that as 18,000 tons of cotton—the quantity now brought down—require 180,000 bullocks to carry them; and as this quantity is but one tenth of the annual traffic both ways, between the coast near Bombay and the interior, it follows that 1,800,000 bullocks per annum must follow by the few routes which the practicable passes of the ghauts permit to be used, in order to carry that part of the traffic which comes under notice of the customs. It can therefore scarcely be expected that the country, receiving no rain for eight months in the year, could bear any considerable addition to the droves of pack cattle now employed, and that any attempt to increase them would render permanent that exhaustion of water and forage on the road which now occasionally occurs.

By another very ingenious table, compiled from trustworthy authorities which he cites, Mr. Chapman exhibits all the items of the cost of Indian cotton in Liverpool, including

—1. The factor's price at Khamgaum, in Berar. 2. The cost of transit duties, &c., in the interior. 3. (in two columns) The cost of inland conveyance by bullocks, &c.; and, side by side, an hypothetical comparative charge by railway for 303 miles, at 2½d. per ton per mile. (The difference between these two columns will show the saving by railway.) 4. Freight from Bombay to Liverpool. 5. Two columns of prime cost at Liverpool; first, with cotton conveyed by bullocks; the second, when conveyed by rail. 6. The prices of Surat cotton in Liverpool. And 7. The same of American upland. This table extends from 1836 to 1846. Amongst other important results to be obtained from it, it shows that in 1841, 1842, 1843, and 1845, four years out of six, the highest prime cost in Liverpool exceeds the lowest sale price of Surats. The natural result of this continued loss was a diminution from an import of 81,000,000 lbs., to which it had risen in 1840 under the stimulus of profits, to 47,000,000 in 1845. But with railway, instead of bullock conveyance, it is proved that Berar could have held her place even against the American competition which swept the Indian market before it in the four years quoted. In fact, a railway would have converted a hazardous into a certain trade.

The impoverished condition and timid character of the Indian peasant, dependent as he is for the seed and other means of breaking up ground on a village usurer, to whom he pays at least twenty per cent., render a certain market indispensable. His first care is to live, his next to improve his condition and attire. On a grain crop he can live; for even if, under a native tyrant, the whole crop is seized under the name of taxes, he manages to steal enough from his own fields to support life. And this is actually the case in some of the districts under native rule. But he could not live on cotton; and therefore, unless certain of a sale, he will not raise more than needed for the home market. In central peninsular India no increase of demand, within any probable limits, would affect the cultivator's price, because there is an abundance of unoccupied land and labour available in the interior.

After carefully considering the series of facts and the train of arguments, of which we have given an outline, it is impossible to doubt that Mr. Chapman has satisfactorily made out his proposition—"That with a railway, the indigenous cotton of central peninsular India, even without any improvement in quality, would have a safe and constant market at Liverpool, which it has not had, and could not have, while employing the present means of conveyance."

We feel assured that the effect of railway communication would be not less remarkable in India than in Europe. Under an open, steady market, "we shall have not merely the partial and exotic attempts of a few government officers, merchants, or philanthropists, but the care and labour of the people themselves, exerted in their own proper business, and under the inducement of their own proper and well-founded hopes."

In addition to the important considerations in favour of Indian railway communication, suggested by the state of our cotton manufactures, Mr. Chapman enters into a variety of details, affecting the commercial, social, and political condition of India in its relation with Great Britain, which, although full of interest and information, want of space will

prevent us from further noticing. His illustrations, drawn from the South American Republics, and other countries bearing a resemblance in means of internal communication and distribution of population, are new and valuable, and the whole tenor of his remarks on the position of the Indian government as regards its subjects, are marked with singular sagacity and breadth of thought.

As a practical measure for the consideration of capitalists, and more especially of Manchester, Mr. Chapman suggests the construction of a railway, commencing at Bombay, and proceeding to join the mainland at Tannah, thence crossing the Lyhadree Range at the Molsej Ghaut, to divide at Alleh, and run north and south; the north to the Pera River, in the middle of the rich cotton district, and the south to Mhuse, whence it will be eventually extended to the Bay of Bengal—thus forming a T-shaped line, of which the main trunk, resting on Bombay, and the cross arm, would be each about 100 miles in length. The cost is estimated at not more than three millions sterling; the time for executing it, supposing the funds duly paid up, at between four and five years, the crossing of the mountain-range requiring tunnelling of great severity. The quantity of goods at present carried over this track is estimated at 180,000 tons; according to railway experience in all countries, this tonnage would be at least doubled. No calculation of the amount to be received from passengers has been made. The proposed charge for goods is 2½d. per ton per mile. The present charge for carriage in the countries between Bombay and the interior is about 4d. per ton per mile, without counting the loss by damage and pilfering.

The Peninsular Railway Company have so far only decided on making a short line of about twenty-nine miles from Bombay to Callian, which stops full a 100 miles short of the great cotton country, and seventy miles short of the mountain range, which presents one of the greatest difficulties to the transit of heavy goods. It is, in fact, a mere rudimentary line, to which the railway shareholders have been tempted by a guarantee from the East India Company, in £500,000, totally insufficient, in every point of view, to test the capabilities of India for supplying railway traffic. By the last accounts from Bombay this tentative line has been commenced. We quite agree with Mr. Chapman that, if Bombay and the Bay of Bengal are to be crowded by railways in this generation, it must be through private enterprise, without government assistance or interference. With respect to the profits which may be derived from such an undertaking, that is a question which does not fall within our province to consider; it may be left, with the ample data provided by this work, to the millionaires of Lancashire.

If, after due consideration, our capitalists should decide on enlarging the little line now in course of execution, to the dimensions suggested by Mr. Chapman, certain is it that never, since the Battle of Plassy gave up India to British rule, will any undertaking have been projected so likely to knit close the commercial ties between England and her hundred millions of unknown subjects,—or so likely to modify, by the abundance of healthful occupation, and increased intercourse in commerce and civilization with Christian Europe, the debasing superstitions of the Hindoo faith.

Notes on North America, Agricultural, Economical, and Social. By James F. W. Johnston, M.A., &c. &c. Blackwood and Sons.

THESE 'Notes' record the progress of a journey made by Professor Johnston of Durham through the north-eastern portion of the United States. Unlike most 'Notes' of journeys, these are not desultory jottings down of roadside gossip, nor railway descriptions of the country passed through. The tour from Halifax to Philadelphia, from New York to Buffalo, and thence to Quebec, and southward through New Brunswick to Fredericton and St. John, was made with a purpose, and these volumes record the facts collected with especial reference to that purpose.

Professor Johnston has long devoted his attention to agriculture, and the application of science to that important branch of human industry. His published works on the subject of agricultural chemistry, and his well-known chemical labours, sufficiently prove that few men have crossed the Atlantic who, from previous study, were so well qualified to report on the conditions of the American farmer—on the character of the soil—the influences of climate—and the general features of rural economy in the United States. On all these points the volumes before us furnish a large amount of the most valuable information, which will prove interesting to the political economist and the agriculturists of this country, and useful to those who farm within the districts of which Professor Johnston writes.

We are not quite so well pleased with the 'Notes' on men and things—they want that large view of human nature which should distinguish a social philosopher, and they frequently exhibit those little prejudices which are the result of the confined operations of defective education—individual eccentricities, we believe, being not unfrequently chosen to represent the peculiarities of the inhabitants of a state. There is, however, no acerbity in any of our author's remarks, excepting always when he has to speak of Irishmen—and his book is entirely free from that caricature which is so offensive in the works of some American travellers. To those who purpose emigrating, these volumes will afford the most valuable information, and the following passage contains such excellent advice, that we cannot pass it by without transferring it to our pages:—

"On this excursion I had seen many spots upon which a British farmer, with a little capital, could settle comfortably, not with the prospect of becoming rich, but of obtaining all necessary comforts, and of placing upon farms of their own any number of sons. But the wise and prudent course for a new settler to pursue is to devote a few weeks to an examination of the country in person, to look at it with an agricultural and practical eye, to consult prudent persons long resident on the spot as to the advantages or disadvantages of the various farms which are to be purchased, and thus, with due caution and deliberation, and after due inquiry, to come to a determination. The emigrant and his family will then easily adapt themselves to their new circumstances; and, instead of a temporary resting-place, as so many emigrants make of the first place they settle upon, they will find at once a permanent family freehold and a happy home."

Many of the anecdotes which enliven these volumes are exceedingly well told, and indicate, in some respects, a keenness of observation for character which, as we have already remarked, is not fulfilled in the more quiet dissertations on the people and their politics.

The natural feeling and pathos of the following induces us to quote it:—

"Few things are more interesting in a strange and distant land—carrying you sooner into the hearts of the people, and giving you with them the position and familiarity of an old friend—than to be able to talk to them about their old haunts at home. In one cottage the mistress was now a widow: she was from Devonshire, and had been many years before a servant of the incumbent of Linton. I spoke to her of Bideford and the Valley of Rocks, and Ilfracombe. It was holding up to her a picture of old and happy days. 'Oh sir!' she said, as I left her, 'I do so like to hear about Ilfracombe and Combe Martin, and all them places.'"

"But a broad Lowland Scotch tongue, and a knowledge of Scottish localities, will make a man at home in a greater number of houses in New Brunswick than almost any other qualification which a Briton can possess; and I think I spoke more broad Scotch during my three months' tour in New Brunswick than I had done during twenty years of my life before."

"On my previous tour upon the St. John River, as we were driving through a new settlement, a farmer and his staff, who were cutting oats, stopped to look at us. I was told he had come from Paisley, so we pulled up to talk to him. 'Would you rather be staunin there, or at the corner o' the Causeyside?' I said to him. This unexpected allusion to his native place went straight to his heart. He stood for some time without reply, and then said, 'Ah, sir, the Causeyside's a bonny place.' Those who know the kind of beauty possessed by the Causeyside of Paisley will understand how much heart and home affection was expressed by this word 'bonny.'"

"Among the Arran settlers on the Restigouche, the love of country which bound them to their island-home has been transferred to the similar land of 'mountain and flood' in which they are located. After other lively talk with a middle-aged thriving farmer, and comments on the country, and comparisons with home,—'An' is na that hill like Goatfell?' pointing to the lofty Tragadegash on the opposite Canadian shore. He could scarcely express his assent; and after our conversation was ended, and I and my friend had entered the carriage, he came warmly forward with his outstretched hand, 'I maun hae anither shake o' yer han', sir; ye're a real Scotchman.'"

The mysterious bond, which, as a lengthening chain, where'er we roam, still binds us to that little spot of earth on which we first learnt the joys and sorrows of humanity, through the longest life, is never severed. The associations of the child are the guiding impulses of many of the operations of the full-grown man; they show how completely the future is the creation of the past.

It is not an uncommon practice for the settlers to set fire to the forest trees, as an easy way of removing them in the clearings. The following passage describes the appalling consequences which sometimes have ensued from this custom:—

"In describing my previous journey down the Miramichi, I have spoken of the burnt lands through which we passed, and of the bleak and desolate appearance they still presented, though the great fire which desolated them happened five-and-twenty years ago. In the course of this evening, Mr. Rankin, in whose memory all the horrors of that time are still fresh, interested us much by graphic details of his personal experiences when the fire appeared among them. It was an excessively hot summer, and fires were burning in numerous places upon the Miramichi and St. John rivers and their tributaries; and the air was everywhere hot, and obscured with smoke. But on the 7th of October, it began to blow from the south-west, and the fire to spread over the country in the same direction. The wind increased gradually to a hurricane, and the fire advanced with proportionate rapidity. At one o'clock in the afternoon,

it was still seventy miles up the river; and in the evening, it was at Douglstown. It travelled eighty-five miles in nine hours, so that scarcely on a fleet horse could a man have escaped from it. Lumberers already in the woods were caught, and solitary settlers with their families; and while all their property was destroyed, some saved their lives by rolling themselves in the rivers, till the scorching blast had passed over them. Instances of miraculous escape he told us—of parental devotion, and of selfish desertion; but the most striking things he mentioned were, that the flame, as it advanced, was twenty-five miles in breadth; that, coming from the west, it rushed past the towns of Newcastle and Douglstown, leaving a green margin of some miles in breadth between its southern edge and the river; and that when, in its easterly course, it reached Burnchurch River, the wind lulled, turned round, and drove the fire up the river again. It then came back along the green fringe it had left as it descended, and by the way licked up the towns of Douglstown and Newcastle—of their 254 houses leaving only 14. It was doubtless the rushing of the sea-wind from the Gulf of St. Lawrence, into the huge fiery vortex, that drove back the flame when it had reached the open mouth of the Miramichi River.

"At these towns, men and cattle rushed into the river; and though a hurricane was raging on its surface, people hurried into vessels and boats and scows, and eagerly thrust off from the land. The lesser dread was forgotten in the presence of the greater. But although so huge a flame was raging, there was no light. Showers of ashes and burnt twigs, and still burning brands, and thick smoke, filled the air; and for two days afterwards, amid a perfect calm, the darkness on the river was such, that a bell was kept tolling on each bank to indicate the site of the ferry, that people might know where to steer to.

"The town of Chatham, on the opposite side of the river, in a great measure escaped; but the Nassau Settlement, six miles behind it, was burned to the ground—the settlers only saving their lives by rolling themselves in the river till the flame passed away. In many streams, where the native woods still overhung them, the water proved insufficient to preserve human life; and the thousands of salmon and other fish found floating on their surfaces showed how intense and penetrating the heat must have been.

"Over many other parts of the province, great fires raged on the same day; and the loss to the province, not only in private property, but in the public forests consumed, was immense. The loss of private property at Miramichi alone was estimated at 228,000*l*. Nor, in such burnings, is the public injury confined to the old forest trees consumed, which it will take many years to replace, but the soil itself is permanently injured by every such visitation. The clouds of ashes borne away by the wind are an actual robbery by nature, and an exhaustion of the land. It is in this way, no doubt, among others, that land is destroyed, as the provincials term it, by frequent burnings.

"On this occasion, cinders and smoke were observed at Quebec, on the banks of Newfoundland; and even as far off as the Bermudas."

The work embraces a very wide range of subjects. Political questions agitating the union, agricultural statistics affecting the British farmer and free trade, geology, mineralogy, and metallurgy, religion and morals, slavery and education. From many of the views entertained by Professor Johnston, we differ; and, as we have said, we believe him incapable of fairly examining them; but, within the limits of his scientific knowledge, all that he has written is excellent, and we regret that he has not confined himself to the agricultural condition of the States he visited, and the progress of science as he found it. The following remarks on science in the United States are so just that they deserve being extracted for the benefit of the Americans against whom they are directed:—

"A feverish anxiety manifests itself every now and then, even among scientific men of undoubted talent, to give their science a national instead of a catholic character. The naturalists are uneasy under the fetters of European authority, and call out for a nomenclature native to themselves. The geologists disdain to name their formations by designations taken from European localities, and wish to make it a point of patriotism to contrive and adopt a classification and nomenclature purely American. The mineralogist insists upon the necessity of an analysis of all minerals found in America, simply because they are American—though there are abundance of still unanalysed substances upon which those qualified to analyse may, for many years to come, be far more profitably employed for the benefit of mineralogical science. And the same spirit occasionally appears in these volumes of the New York Natural History. The author of the volumes on Scientific Agriculture, for example, has pled for the analysis, organic and inorganic, of every species of cultivated grain, root, and fruit, simply because it is of New York State growth; and thus, on the analysis of those vegetables which are best known, to which most had been done in Europe already, a vast amount of labour has been expended, for the devotion of which to other less known productions science would have been abundantly grateful."

Professor Johnston's work is published very opportunely just before the opening of the Great Exhibition. The produce of Canada, of Nova Scotia, and of the United States, mineral, vegetable, and animal, is well represented in this great gathering; and the information on these given by the author will render the inspection of them far more interesting and more useful than it would otherwise have proved.

We recommend our economists, our agriculturists, and our metallurgists, to read the 'Notes,' and compare them with the illustrative samples which will shortly be exposed to view in Hyde Park.

The Metamorphoses of Apuleius; a Romance of the Second Century. Translated from the Latin by Sir George Head. Longmans.

Two translations of this amusing work into English have preceded the present version. One by a person of the name of Adlington, appeared so far back as 1566, and passed through several editions; the other, by Thomas Taylor, famous, or more properly infamous, for his translation of Plato, was published in 1822, and descended with plumbean rapidity to the abysses of oblivion. The former we have not seen. The latter, through which we remember to have struggled in times past, was certainly not such as to render superfluous the labours of the present translator. Taylor could not take the book for what its author meant it—a mere romance, based upon the life which he saw around him,—but found in it esoteric meanings and misty suggestions of Platonic mysteries, and consequently threw over its most brilliant descriptions and liveliest dialogues the fog of his own wool-gathering brain and lumbering and dreary style.

Sooth to say, however, the translation of 'The Golden Ass' is a matter of no common difficulty. Written when the language had lost the simplicity and manly conciseness which mark the writers of the classic era of Roman literature, and by an African to whom the language was foreign, and who had not learned it with grammatical precision, while at the same time the vivacity of his fancy was alien to the genius of the people whose language it was, this ingenious romance

has deterred from its perusal all but those scholars who carry their researches into the manners and literature of the Roman Empire beyond the usual limits. The style, though lively and graphic, is florid and rambling; the writer's art is prominently felt, the sentences are often long and entangled, and the language of that composite character which marks a vitiated literature. To present its substance in a form that should be acceptable to the English reader was, therefore, a work involving much labour and no small amount of skill, and both have been displayed by Sir George Head in a considerable degree.

The perusal of his Preface, however, did not inspire us with much hope of arriving at this conclusion. More bad English in the same space is not often encountered; and how a writer was to extricate the long entangled sentences of Apuleius, who was so lost in the mazes of his own, was not very apparent. Many of his paragraphs cost us repeated perusals in a hopeless endeavour to fathom their meaning, while others, when evolved from their labyrinth of words, presented the most puerile platitudes. As a specimen, take the following:—

"This tale, commonly recognised under the title of *The Golden Ass*, has been jointly attributed [?] to Apuleius and Lucian, which latter version" (the latter version being Lucian) "written in Greek, is unquestionably similar and identical in the main features of the story; although, with the exception of the name of the hero, Lucius, which is the same in both, the names of people and of places are different. Indeed it is universally admitted, that either both Apuleius and Lucian derived it from a common source, or that one took it from the other. By some, in a tone of slight confidence" [what does this mean?] "and on exceedingly slender authority, it is ascribed to one Lucius of Patrae. It matters little, however, whether Apuleius borrowed the story from Lucian or from Lucius of Patrae, though it is probable he took it from Lucian. But, on the other hand, it is almost incredible to imagine that Lucian took it from Apuleius, since he would hardly have condescended, even had he availed himself of the performance of a contemporary Latin author, to send before the world a Greek version so infinitely its inferior. Indeed the *Metamorphoses*, as well in excellence of composition as in quantity, bears an overwhelming proportion to the version of Lucian, and contains, of matter which confessedly and undisputedly belongs to Apuleius and to nobody else, the whole of the eleventh book and all the episodes, together with very numerous increments and embellishments in the body of the narrative."

A very unhappy piece of English, truly—and the criticism scarcely Gentilean. Indeed, Sir George Head is altogether unfortunate in his critical remarks, and when in one part of the Preface he travels out of his way to prove his scholarship by an allusion to Horace's Canidia, he falls into an error, which it might have been thought the more careful criticism of later years had altogether expelled even from the minds of our country squires:—

"After all," he says, "Canidia, whom in his fifth epode he attacks so virulently in a mock-heroic strain, was doubtless no more of a witch than some object of a former attachment, who slighted him in her youth, and therefore he was ever after twitting her under various titles; for instance, under the name of Lydia, or of Lyce, and last of all, in allusion to her age and gray hair, Canidia."

The least care in the examination of the poems referred to is of itself sufficient to show that Canidia and Lyce, or Lydia, cannot be the same persons. But no argument from internal evidence is necessary; for, as the Epodes were written and published before Horace was 26, Canidia, if she had slighted

him in her youth, could scarcely have merited her name by either her age or gray hair, unless Horace had turned devotee to the sex in very early boyhood, an assumption altogether inadmissible, knowing, as we do, that his father kept a tight hand upon him in the green days of his puberty, and directed his studies to books quite other than "woman's looks."

We had much rather follow Sir George Head as a translator than as a critic. By breaking up the romance into chapters, and marking the dialogue by inverted commas, and so modernizing its whole aspect, he has agreeably lightened the work, and brought its character more clearly before the reader. He may not have done full justice to the finer portions of the beautiful apologue of Cupid and Psyche, for which alone, if for nothing else, this translation is a serviceable addition to our literature; but he has caught with no small felicity the lively graphic manner of his original, and, without curtailing the work of anything material, has rendered it a safe book for any library, which, without the exercise of a little Bowdlerism, it certainly is not.

Apart from the interest of the book as a portraiture of domestic life, and of the usages, passions, sports, delusions, and beliefs of a period, on which such light as it affords is alike scanty and valuable, the reader is carried agreeably along by the shifting incidents, and by the frequently striking adventures with which it abounds. Apuleius, no doubt, availed himself of many current tales with which his extensive travels had made him familiar; but there is much of the freshness of individual experience in the narrative. Not much of his history is known. Born in the second century, about the time of Antoninus Pius, at Madaura, a Roman colony in Africa, of a good family, strikingly handsome in person, and possessed with an insatiable thirst of knowledge, he passed from land to land, acquiring what was to be learnt in each, and found himself at last much in the situation of Jacques, 'with rich eyes and poor hands.' He repaired his fortunes by marriage with Pudentilla, a rich widow of Oea, a town in Numidia, whose relations, chagrined at the diversion of a fortune on which they had counted for themselves, accused him of having mastered her affections by magic arts, and

Mixtures powerful o'er the blood,
Or with some dram conjured to this effect.

The natural magic of a handsome person and an accomplished mind would, except with such unusually scrupulous relatives, have been sufficient to explain the attachment of a lady who had felt the tedium of a fourteen years' widowhood press too heavily on her spirits. Absurd, however, as was the charge, it was strenuously urged, and ultimately brought to trial at Sabrata, before Claudius Maximus, the Roman proconsul. As might have been anticipated, it was triumphantly refuted, Apuleius pleading his own case in the *Apologia*, which is still extant among his works,—a most interesting document, from which our chief information as to his personal history is derived. His life had obviously been one of much variety, and had opened to him a wide field of observation, both of men and things. To its peculiar experiences we are no doubt indebted for many of the incidents of the present book, especially those which spring out of the prevailing belief in witchcraft and the successful practice of the "arts inhibited." The conversion of the

hero into an ass through an unlucky mistake in the use of an ointment, which he expected was to provide him with wings, affords an excellent vehicle for a succession of stirring pictures of Thessalian life; while the blundering donkeyism of the animal, consciously felt by the transformed soul within it, and the luckless curiosity which is perpetually plunging him into scrapes, are carried out with a delicate humour more characteristic of modern than of ancient authorship. The best parts of the book are too long for quotation. But as a specimen of its manner we may give the episode of—

DIOPHANES THE CHALDEAN.

"One morning, while Diophanes was enunciating the decrees of the Fates to a vast crowd of people standing round him in a circle, a certain merchant, by name Cerdo, desirous of knowing when he ought to set forth on his journey, advanced to the front and inquired of him the proper day. Diophanes told the merchant the proper day accordingly, and having taken the sum of an hundred denarii, paid to him as the price of his divination, and put it in his purse, which was well stocked beforehand, lo and behold! a young man of noble mien came gently behind him, and gave a pull at his garment. Upon which Diophanes, turning round suddenly, wonderstruck at the unexpected appearance of the other, and for the moment forgetful of his occupation, embraced the young man affectionately, and bade him sit down beside him. 'How glad am I to see thee!' said he; 'for truly anxious have I been about thee for a very long time. When didst thou arrive?'

"'Early this evening,' replied the other; 'but, my brother, in thy turn tell me how is it thou hast made such a rapid journey hither by sea and by land from the island of Eubœa?'

"Here that egregious Chaldean, Diophanes, taken aback and falling into a state of mental abstraction, replied, 'Twere well if all our enemies and evil wishers had to undergo such a dreadful Ulyssean voyage as I had. For we had terrible weather, and were assailed by storms and hurricanes continually. Our ship lost her mast and rudder, and our pilot not being able to make the port, we ran aground some distance from the land; myself and all the passengers were nearly swallowed up in the ocean, had to swim for our lives, and lost everything we had. But this was not the end of our misfortunes; for having at last, with great difficulty, got on shore, and proceeded a little distance up the country with a few articles of necessaries, supplied us through the benevolent commiseration of friends and of strangers, a band of robbers suddenly attacked us, and we were a second time stripped of all we possessed. My poor brother Arisuatus, the only one of our party who offered resistance, lost his life by endeavouring to intimidate the assailants. They cut his throat before my eyes.' While Diophanes was thus proceeding in a very doleful strain to tell the remainder of his story, the merchant, Cerdo, suddenly whipped up the purse containing the money he had paid as the price of the divination which the other had laid down before him, and was out of sight in an instant; upon which the loud fit of laughter that burst forth among the spectators awakened Diophanes from his fit of abstraction, and he saw at once the blunder he had committed through his indiscretion."

At Hypata, a town in Thessaly, the hero meets in a street with a friend of his mother, named Byrrhæna, with whom he walks home. The description of her house is charming:—

"In front of the house was a very beautiful atrium or quadrangle, with a column at each of the four angles, and each column supported a statue of the goddess Victory. The four statues stood each with extended wings planted upon a sphere, which unsteady support they appeared to be kicking away with their rosy feet; so that, though the voluble ball was motionless, the figures seemed hardly to rest upon it, but rather to be

suspended in the air. In the middle of the enclosure, precisely in the centre, fronting the spectator as he entered, was a singularly beautiful statue of Diana in Parian marble, whose gracefully balanced attitude and vigorous carriage rendered it a venerable, majestic object. This type of the deity was accompanied on each side by dogs, which, of Parian marble also, served for her supporters; while their erect ears, savage-looking eyes, dilated nostrils, and snarling jaws were so naturally sculptured, that on hearing the barkings of the live dogs in the vicinity one might actually have imagined the noise proceeded from the marble throats of the latter. Their attitude was the chef-d'œuvre of the sculptor's art, as, with fore feet and chests elevated in the act of running, their hind feet pressed the ground. Behind the statue of Diana, there was wrought out of a rough block of marble the similitude of a natural rock perforated by a cave, and overgrown with brushwood, leaves, moss, and herbage; together with vines, and here and there small fruit trees; and the reflection of the statue was seen upon the polished marble within the cave. Upon the extreme edge of the rock, above the aperture, apples and grapes hung pendulous, so exquisitely formed by art in imitation of nature, and so finely polished, that had fragrant autumn breathed upon them the tint of maturity, one might have thought to pluck and eat. Nay, reader, hadst thou leant forward and seen, amid other manifold truthful resemblances, the grapes reflected in the water of a fountain that in a softly undulating stream emerged from below at the feet of the goddess, thou wouldst have seen the bunches agitated, like life itself, with gentle tremulous motion. And yet, forsooth, thou wouldst not have seen all; for behold, as if in ambush amid the marble foliage, waiting the approach of Diana into the cave after bathing, and, though partly transformed and partaking the savage nature of a stag, there stood a figure of Actæon, gazing inquisitively on the shoulders of the goddess.

We wish we could find room for the admirable tale of Telephron, the Student, which is told in the course of a dinner-party at Byrrhæna's, but for this we must refer the curious reader to the book itself. Scholars will not be sorry to consult it for general purposes in place of the original, for to the most practised its corrupt Latinity makes it very hard reading.

The Wife's Sister; or, The Forbidden Marriage. By Mrs. Hubback. Shoberl.

THOUGH positively declared to be written without any ambition of settling the much debated point of marriage with a deceased wife's sister, this novel does unmistakably develop a most aggravated set of circumstances that might occur under the existing state of the law. As would readily be conjectured, the story of such a novel can never be very agreeable, however cleverly told; the feelings may be moved, but it is rather with the rude chill of disgust than the tender touch of sympathy.

Cecil, the hero, is described as in personal charms a little lower than Hyperion, and in the noble art of lady-killing as a sort of domestic Don Giovanni. Beyond his fine *personnel* and his great estates in Yorkshire, however, the secret of his success is not told. He is introduced as a widower, left with twin children, the offspring of Mary, a twin sister of Fanny, with whom he is already in love. The scene of their mutual avowal is a fair example of Mrs. Hubback's style of description:—

"Don't, Cecil, don't—for mercy's sake—do not speak to me, do not look at me in that way!" and the agitated girl hid her face in her hands from his ardent gaze.

"Fanny," said he earnestly, and withdrawing

her hands from her face as he spoke, 'do not trifle with me in an affair where the whole of our future happiness is at stake. You do love me, I am convinced, though you turn away your head, and refuse to answer me; I feel, I know that you must love me, as I love you, ardently, passionately, beyond all other objects in this world. Become my wife, then—stay with me and with my children, and be to us the blessing which you ever have been—my love—my wife. Speak, Fanny—say you will!'

"In the name of all that is sacred, Cecil, in the name of her who is a saint in heaven, your wife—my sister, cease to talk to me thus, cease to tempt me—it is wrong, surely it is so very wrong," exclaimed Fanny, starting to her feet, and trying to release her hands from his grasp.

"It is in her name, that I appeal to you—in the name of my lost Mary, that I beseech you to hear me patiently and fairly. Who in all the world would she so much desire to see in her place as the sister who so nearly resembles her? To whom would she have so willingly confided her children? Oh, depend upon it, her blessed spirit would smile on a union so natural, so right as ours."

"Fanny sighed, and hesitated."

This ardent love fades, however, in the course of two years, and Cecil fans an old flame in his cousin Laura, a designing heartless young lady, who has become heiress to his property by the death of his first children, and the illegitimacy of Fanny's child; she advises a divorce, which is obtained, and Cecil marries Laura the same week. With a long essay upon retribution, we have the unnecessary addition to the picture of Laura eloping with Arthur Temple within little more than a year. The rest of the plot we must forbear to tell; it is enough to say that it contains much that will interest the professed novel reader, and conveyed in an easy flowing dialogue, often natural and expressive. The following is a brief specimen of our author's descriptive powers. Little Mary enters the sick room of old Mansfield:—

"He was lying in the full light of day, for the bed-curtains were withdrawn, and the windows thrown wide open; and yet the invalid gasped for air, and turned his head restlessly from one side to the other, as if vainly seeking to forget internal pain in bodily motion. His sinewy and withered hands were clenched forcibly, and occasionally he struck the bed beside him with an impatience which told the same tale of nervous agitation. Every feature of his countenance betrayed suffering, and as his attendant stood beside him, she repeatedly wiped from his wrinkled brow the large drops of perspiration which gathered and rolled over them."

Clever as much of the descriptive writing is, we cannot overlook a certain want of good taste and refinement in the too great elaboration of glowing eyes, rapturous embraces, and the like felicities.

On the Publication of School Books by Government at the Public Expense. Longman and Co. and John Murray.

THIS pamphlet contains the particulars of a correspondence between the two great publishing houses and Lord John Russell on the subject of the government school-book monopoly. It is an able remonstrance with the free-trade minister for interfering with their business, and is printed for the sake of eliciting public interest in the matter, prior to its being brought before the consideration of parliament. For the information of some of our readers it may be well to explain that when a Commission of Education was appointed for Ireland, the government became publishers of school-books for the use of the government

schools. The books were to be distributed, under the price at which they could be produced by the trade, among all schools that would submit to government inspection. So long as this new system of government-publishing was confined to the inspected schools in Ireland, little was said of it. Many sympathetic arguments were offered in favour of the good that might be accomplished for this exceptional country. The trading interests of the Irish booksellers would doubtless be affected, but the education of the Irish people in a manner so economical to themselves was considered to be paramount to the principles of free-trade. Now, however, the Irish Commissioners are extending their trading operations to this country. The Privy Council buys of them, and undertakes to sell their Irish books at the same reduced price, delivered in London free of carriage, to all schools in Great Britain that will submit to the same kind of Government inspection. The Board of Education has further appointed several agents in London and elsewhere for the sale of their books to the public at large; at higher prices, it is true, in the latter case, but still at prices with which the private trader cannot compete.

Messrs. Longman and Murray set out by showing that the Government are exercising a monopoly in the manufacture of school-books which is inconsistent with their acknowledged principles of free trade.

"It is true that in former times some trades were propped up by bounties and premiums, sometimes on production, and sometimes on exportation. The impolicy of this course has been demonstrated, and universally admitted: and it is inconsistent and contradictory in a Government which proclaims its devotion to the principles of free trade, and has exerted itself for their promotion, to interfere with any department of industry, or to favour one more than another. But, in the case to which we would call Your Lordship's attention, the Government of England has done, and is doing, more than this: it has set up as a producer; and, while it leaves an important branch of trade heavily burthened with taxes, it scruples not to enter into competition with the parties so burthened, employing the produce of the taxes to which they largely contribute as capital to undersell and supplant them in their business."

As an example of the injustice and of the impolicy of interfering with the system of private competition, the following is adduced:—

"It would be a novel feature in the internal economy of this country, more especially since free trade has been in the ascendant, were Her Majesty's Government to take possession of the Isle of Wight, or of some other district, to grow corn upon it, to construct bakehouses, and to supply the people with bread, at less than its cost price, making up the deficit by taxes levied on those very agriculturists whom the Government had thus done its best to destroy. This, we think, would scarcely be tolerated. Yet, in what respect is the production and sale of books by Government, at less than they cost, more reasonable and proper?"

The establishment of a printing-press was contemplated in London; but this, it appears, was timely prevented:—

"Under the impression that it was in the contemplation of the Government to sanction the establishment of a printing-press in London, for the purposes of the Committee of Council on Education, Mr. Longman addressed, on the 13th of March, 1848, a letter to Sir Charles Trevelyan, in which he pointed out the injurious effects of such a proceeding; and in which he further stated, that the similar proceedings of the Government in Ireland had made the Irish Booksellers the poorest of their class; that bankruptcy had been brought

to their doors; and, that the Irish people were being educated at the expense and to the ruin of those, by whose intervention they had been supplied with the means of reading and improvement."

The delivery of the Irish produce in London, free of carriage, amounted, however, to nearly the same thing:—

"The extent to which books produced at the public expense in Ireland are sold in England, is practically brought under the notice of Messrs. Longman and Co., the Agents for supplying the Schools under the inspection of the Committee of Council on Education. And they find that the books printed for the Irish Commissioners of Education, supplied to schools in England patronised by the English Commissioners, amount to about a fourth part of the whole; and this quantity is exclusive of those sold by the agents of the Irish Commissioners in London and elsewhere."

Messrs. Longman and Murray have no objection to the Government competing with books produced by private parties in Ireland. In that case they are content to rely on the equality of their resources:—

"Now, we beg to assure Your Lordship that we should be the last persons in the world to say a word against this importation, though it were ten times greater, were the imported books produced by private parties in Ireland at their own risk. But Your Lordship knows that such is not the case. They are produced by monopolists, supported at the public expense, and are recommended and patronised by Government. And, though we should not fear the competition of private parties coming into the field under the same circumstances as ourselves, you will not be surprised when we confess our inability to contend with parties to whom expense is no object; who do not trade upon their own funds, but upon funds, derived from those taxes to which we have to contribute our full share; whose works, how indifferent soever, are patronised by Government; and whose losses of every sort—including the damages paid to those whose property they have purloined—are all made good out of the National Exchequer."

The question of purloining here referred to, and for which the Government had to pay 600*l.*, does not affect the principle under discussion, but it serves in a marked degree to expose the incapacity of the Irish commissioners for dabbling in matters of business detail. It must be acknowledged that the Board of Education has produced several very excellent works, but it has also produced some indifferent ones, and in such cases the absence of private competition is a loss to the public. If the Government produce an indifferent work, it is circulated along with the rest with official sanction, and, in some quarters, with official command for its use. If the private trader produces an indifferent work, it is immediately superseded by a rival and better book.

"Perhaps your Lordship may not be aware that the first volume of a work on mathematics, produced by and at the expense of Government, has lately been introduced, to the exclusion of every other work, into the schools under the Board of Ordinance. We know nothing of the merits of this book; but it must be very excellent indeed, if it be better than many such works already in existence. But though it were, as it may be, far below the best of the existing books of the same class, its position and its sale are, notwithstanding, secured. It cannot be expected that those by whom it has been compiled should dismiss it to make way for others. That would be a confession of inferiority on their part, which is about the very last confession any one is disposed to make."

"Suppose that an elementary work on mathematics were published by Sir John Herschel: it would be certain to command, as it would deserve, the suffrages of all the mathematicians of Europe;

and it would be equally certain to be excluded from the schools under the Board of Ordnance. The latter may, it is true, be supplied with a very inferior work. But this work, whatever it may be, has been produced by a *protégé* of the Board; and were it discarded, the whole impression would be lost, or be worth only so much waste paper.

"And is it fair or reasonable that works printed by the Education Commissioners in Ireland, or the Board of Ordnance, are to have a sale secured for them, how undeserving soever they may be of such patronage? The competition of private individuals can make no way against such palpable favouritism. Government produces, at an enormous expense, a work, good, bad, or indifferent, original or pirated from others, as the case may be, and it provides a market for such work, where it cannot be disturbed by the competition of any other work, though it should be incomparably better and incomparably cheaper."

After giving the most careful and disinterested attention to this subject, we are disposed to think that the conclusion arrived at in the pamphlet before us is based upon the sound principles of trading and political economy:—

"If there be one department which, more than another, may be safely left to public competition, the production of school books is that very department. Men of the highest acquirements have, for centuries past, and more especially in our own times, devoted their best energies to their compilation; while all classes of publishers have spared no expense, and made every effort, to bring them before the public, with every advantage of embellishment, and in every variety of form, and at every price. School books constitute, in fact, one of the most important departments of our literature; and are not surpassed in number, in ability, and suitability to their object. In some peculiar departments of literature, the assistance of Government may, sometimes, perhaps, be necessary, or not very objectionable. But in the production of school books it is quite as superfluous and uncalled for, as it would be in the production of calicoes or cambrics.

On Tuesday the matter was brought before parliament by Lord Mahon, than whom no member of the House of Commons is better qualified to deal with the interests of literature.

"This system," said the noble lord, "which had been established in Ireland, was felt to be a great grievance by many parties. It was considered an undue interference with private competition; it was a grievance to the publishers, with whose trade it interfered; and it was especially a grievance to many respectable men who had written school books, and whom the Government system had deprived of their bread. * * * The system adopted by the Government was an interference with the sound principle of private competition, and its effect had been to reduce several deserving men to severe distress."

The Premier stated in reply, that he had handed the letters of Messrs. Longman and Murray over to the Committee of Privy Council for Education, and that the arrangement agreed to when they considered the subject was that—

"It was desirable not to publish school books here, but to treat with different publishers with respect to such books, in order that they might be able to furnish them as cheaply as possible; and the result was a saving of 40 per cent. upon the previous supply. Among other persons with whom they corresponded were the Irish Education Commissioners, who certainly had published books on their own account, but the noble lord could hardly regret this when he recollected what were the usual school books before that; the publications alluded to had been very useful, and their circulation had tended very much to improve the character of the education provided."

Sir Robert Inglis considered that Lord

Mahon had done well in calling attention to this subject.

"Although he was not a free-trader, he disapproved of the government creating a monopoly in literature by the establishment of a book manufactory. It was not enough for the premier to say that there were bad school books thirty years ago. Were there not good school books now?"

Lord John Russell intimated that the whole question was, whether the Education Commissioners for Great Britain had taken the proper course with reference to the Irish Commissioners, and he would answer that question at a future day.

We believe the system is injurious alike to authors and to publishers. While it tends to suppress the labours of many eminent educational writers, it is calculated to limit the use of many highly approved educational works,—works that have been undertaken by men of sound learning, and most carefully revised and elaborated through successive editions, under the influence of competition.

Before dismissing the subject it may be as well to refer to a kindred complaint among authors and publishers. 'The Religious Tract Society' and 'The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge,' established for the cheap distribution of religious books out of similar benevolent motives to the Irish Education Commission, are largely interfering with the trade in books on subjects of general literature which were never contemplated by their founders. The legitimate trader cannot compete with a voluntary subscribed capital. Respectable books occupy the place of good ones, and the market for the labours of original minds is pre-occupied by a host of compilers and 'gatherers of other mens' stuff.' No one can dispute the usefulness of these works. They are of good material. Some are very excellent ones, and they are all sufficiently not bad to merit critical condemnation. In reviewing one of these—'The Life of an Insect'—*The Athenæum* for 1849, p. 1202, has the following pertinent remarks:—

"Thus much for the book:—which we can recommend as a most instructive and amusing introduction to entomology. We are puzzled, however, to know why it should be published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. But that it is interspersed with more texts of Scripture than are usually found in our popular scientific treatises, we see no reason why the book should not have been published by Mr. Van Voorst or the Messrs. Reeve. The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge was established for the publication of popular works on religious subjects, and for this express purpose voluntary subscriptions are raised. We think their abandonment of their proper ground is an injustice alike to authors, to publishers, and to the public. To authors they are unjust, because works of inferior merit are often published by the aid of their premiums—and thus take the place of better and more appropriate books. Publishers are injured by having for their competitors a society which is supported by a gratuitous capital. The public are wronged, inasmuch as they are, as we have said, subscribers for the formal diffusion of religious knowledge, whereas their money is spent in paying the authors and printers of books which do not contain a particle of religious information. The publications of the Religious Tract Society expose themselves to the same charge. The money of the public is spent by them also, not in diffusing religious knowledge, but in dressing up scientific and historical truth in conformity with what are called Christian principles. It would be better to let scientific and religious truth speak each for itself, than to run the hazard of a rejection of either by a forced and often illogical union of the two."

The tenor of the above observations, as

regards the injustice done by these societies 'to authors, to publishers, and to the public,' applies equally to the trading operations of the Irish Education Commission. There is even a spirit of rivalry growing up between these benevolent institutions as to which of them shall make the most liberal use of the public money. The Irish Commission published a 'Zoology for Schools,' by Mr. R. Patterson; the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge has just published a 'Zoology for Schools,' by Mr. P. H. Gosse, adopting the very same title.

It is for the publication of scientific and literary works, such as are undertaken by the Camden, Ray, Palæontographical, Hakluyt, and other Societies, of which the demand is insufficient to pay the cost of production, that subscriptions are needed. It is for the publication of expensively illustrated works, resulting from the scientific labours of philosophers and naturalists, of which the use is equally limited, that the assistance of Government is needed.

Guides à Londres. Paris.

[Second Notice.]

WE now introduce the reader to M. Joseph Bard, "Knight," as his title-page tells us, "of several Orders; Honorary Inspector of the Historical Monuments of the departments of the Rhone and the Isère; Historical Correspondent of the Ministry of Public Instruction; Secretary of the Municipal Commission of Fine Arts of the town of Beaune; Associate of the Pontifical Roman Academy of Archaeology; Member of the National Academies of Rouen, Marseilles, Metz, &c.; and Founder of the *Bulletin Monumental et Liturgique de la ville de Lyon*." Evidently M. Joseph Bard is a first-rate *savant*, and the statements in his 'Londres' must therefore be received with the respect due to vast learning. Here are a few of them:—

English nationality:—

"There is not perhaps in the world a nationality which offers more cohesion, energy, and *ensemble* than that of Great Britain, which extends with the same unity from the greatest to the smallest things, which embraces in such a general manner language, traditions, human and material forms, public and private usages, architecture, monuments, types, and sub-types. * * * The English are so exclusive that they only speak their own language, accept their own money, drink their own tea, smoke their own tobacco, use their own manufactures, admit only their own civilization and ideas. I am very far from approving the arrogant pride which causes these proud islanders to look down on all foreign nationalities as vassals of their own, and to affect towards them a secret or open disdain; but I like a nation stamped with its own public spirit, and which will never consent to become the tributary of its rivals."

Originality of the English:—

"The English people is the only one which is completely original; their manners and usages are imitated at Geneva, at Lausanne, in France and Belgium, and especially in Holland; the English are always the same."

The English language:—

"The English are passionately attached to their language. They have only consented to borrow one single word from us, and that is employed by their innkeepers—*table d'hôte*, which they pronounce *taible dott*. And yet we have taken hundreds of words from them!"

Railways:—

"British railways are a symbol of the aristocratic ideas which prevail in the United Kingdom. The

service, however, is much worse done than in Belgium, France, or Germany."

London:—

"This immense capital is marked with a seal of majesty and grandeur which strikes one with astonishment. Nothing there resembles Paris. Almost all the houses are separated from the streets by a large ditch, a garden, and iron railing; the squares are shaded by lofty trees, and embellished with gardens. The streets are arteries which have no end, and the Thames is a sea."

Horses:—

"There is not a country in the world in which the horses go quicker, or bear richer harness. In horseflesh, the Englishman does not admit mediocrity, and attaches the highest importance to all that concerns the stable. He would give twenty valets de chambre for one groom. Hence it is that the saddlers and carriage-makers realize immense fortunes, and are generally lodged like princes."

How the English love:—

"They love nothing with the heart; when they do love, it is exclusively of the head."

Their character:—

"They have no grace, no *desinvolture*, no poesy in them; but are methodical, reasonable, indefatigable in work and in amassing lucre."

Public vehicles:—

"All their omnibuses and cabs are marked with the royal crown. This does not imply a slavish devotedness to Queen Victoria, but their love of their country."

The police:—

"They are beardless, phlegmatic, of soft and impassible physiognomies; they have no weapons, and no force except moral power; they are charged to remind those who may do wrong of the text of the law."

Street porters:—

"Accustomed to the street porters of Lyons and Paris, my surprise was great to find those of London wearing gloves, clean shirts, black coats, varnished leather boots, caoutchouc cloaks; and to see that they were neatly shaved."

Street sweepers:—

"I shall never in my life forget having seen women sweeping and watering the Strand, with gloves on."

A bad quarter:—

"Between Cornhill Street and Thames Street, there lives what is called the populace of London; there pauperism is frightful. The wretched inhabitants of that district are brawlers, drunkards, and prize-fighters."

A profound reflection:—

"Saint Peter's at Rome faces the east—Saint Paul's at London the west; they are respectively dedicated to the two princes of the apostles—why should they turn their backs on each other?"

The monarchy:—

"The throne in England is only a seal, a formula, a conventional type."

The City:—

"The City is in the centre of London; it begins at Temple Bar, and ends at Charing Cross."

Translation of the inscription on the Royal Exchange:—

"La terre appartient AUX LORDS, ainsi que son contenu!"

Houses:—

"All the houses at London are painted on the outside in oil."

English peasants:—

"The English peasant is worth seeing; he wears a large black coat, a broad-brimmed hat, gloves, and always carries a walking cane; his whole bearing and his dress speak of comfort."

Flunkys:—

"The English aristocracy are distinguished by

the number, the canes, and the wigs of their lacqueys. Seeing constantly a footman, well powdered and bewigged, carry horizontally a large Voltaire cane behind certain sumptuous carriages, I asked for an explanation; it was soon given—wig, powder, and cane are aristocratic privileges. Not only must a man have a certain number of quarterings to be authorised to make his servants use such things, but he must pay so much tax for the lacquey, so much for the wig, so much for the tail to the wig, and so much for the cane."

Money:—

"Gold circulates everywhere by handfuls, and is more common than copper coin in France. If you buy two pennyworth of snuff, or an orange at the street corner, the dealer will produce a handful of gold to give you change."

English food:—

"Thick stupifying beer, meat almost raw and horribly spiced; strong libations of port wine, followed by plum-pudding—such is the meat of these islanders."

The Englishman very *distingué*:—

"The English in general have an air of nobility rarely found amongst the French; and this type, so far removed from vulgarity, is to be met with in all classes—amongst cab-drivers as well as amongst baronets and lords."

The following appeared in a daily newspaper, the *Ordre*, on the 26th ult., and is from a correspondent, M. Henri-Marie Martin, now resident amongst us.

"The nearer we approach the day on which the Temple of Industry will be solemnly opened," he says, "the more agitation increases. The English do not merely indulge in dreams of fortune; but those who are somewhat of philosophers take pleasure in speculating on the changes which the Exhibition will cause in English manners and customs. It is permitted," he continues, "to hope that in this Congress of Nations, in which the English principally seek the interest of the shop, the French will see the influence of his language, his mind, and his manners increase."

And he gives a lesson:—

"It is high time for London society, whether aristocratic or middle class, which has hitherto been so stiff, so haughty, so exclusive, to begin to amend itself. At present it is insupportably monotonous. Let us rejoice, then, that the time has arrived at which the large and dull town of London is about to unbend its gloomy face, and shake from its forehead fog and ennui."

The present emotion of our shopkeepers:—

"The idea that foreigners are coming over, creates a curious effect on the shopkeeper,—it makes him shiver, and gives him the vertigo. He trembles from the fear that his articles may not suit the taste of his visitors; and he has had his shop newly decorated. He passes his evenings in learning to articulate a few of the phrases which form the basis of the French or German language. He specially occupies himself in learning to calculate! In his eyes the height of all human erudition would be to know how to count in Turkish, in Chinese, and in all other languages. Somebody has written that the savage cries, the Englishman counts, and the Frenchman speaks. He said truly; England reigns over the world by means of her figures—France by her language."

He makes known what his countrymen expect:—

"The important thing for the French who come to the City of Spleen is, that London shall for once in its life be gay; that she shall learn how to laugh; that she shall permit the Frenchman to infuse some of his native gaiety into her stiff, starched, solemn, and unattractive circles of society; that the aristocracy and the commercial classes shall understand that the time has arrived to throw wide open their splendid drawing-rooms to well-bred and respectable people, whose only crime is having been born out of Great Britain; that easier manners, more conciliating bearing, more *laissez-aller*, and more wit,

shall, if it be possible, replace the icy tone, the fastidious ceremonial, the stiff-starchedness, the *cant* which paralyse English society, and make it resemble a collection of automata more than one of thinking and feeling creatures."

He entertains a hope that the English will amend their ways:—

"We know that such a radical reform is not to be accomplished in a single day, nor even in the course of the Exhibition season. But we have the right to hope for some progress. Let the English reflect. It is undoubted that this summer a shoal of foreigners of distinction will visit them—without counting kings, princes, emperors, pachas, and other great personages, whose place is marked out in the highest and, no doubt, the best circles here below. But with them there will alight on the chalky cliffs of Albion a host of *savans*, of literary men, of men of intellect, of merchants, of manufacturers, of tradesmen of all latitudes—even muphtis and mandarins. And can you suppose, Englishmen, that all these people can be left in the streets, in the hotels, in the boxes of the taverns, with no other occupation than to look at each other, yawn at the pale sun of London, and then go to their beds at nine o'clock! How exquisitely hospitable would be such a way of receiving strangers! No! for the honour of proud and wealthy England, we will never believe that she can be so mean and so disdainful!"

With touching pathos, he appeals to the best sentiments of Englishmen:—

"Remember that it is possible that the hideous spleen may drive some of us to pitch ourselves into the yellow waters of the Thames! If only to preserve your consciences from the reproaches which such a misfortune would cause, amuse the foreigners—give balls that they may dance, O Englishmen! And be assured that this action will be accounted to you hereafter as the best of all your lives!"

Such are a few of the sketches of England and the English, written by men of literary pretension, that have found their way into print in the French metropolis. Alas! for the honour of the national republic of letters.

SUMMARY.

Journal of a Tour in Italy in 1850, with an Account of an Interview with the Pope at the Vatican. By the Rev. George Townsend, D.D. Rivingtons. APART from the special object of Dr. Townsend's pilgrimage, there is little in this volume of much novelty or importance. The usual sights, which all travellers see and which every handbook describes, are contained in the journal. Except that greater attention throughout is given to matters theological and ecclesiastical than is customary in an Italian tour, the narrative has nothing distinctive, so far as objects of external interest are concerned. The interview with the Pope, with the preliminary proceedings, and statements of the author's design in going to Rome, form the main feature of the volume. Distressed by the divided condition of the Christian Church, and believing that active efforts should be used by all who are accustomed to pray for unity and concord, Dr. Townsend conceived the idea of personally appealing to Pope Pius, and imploring him to convoke a general council, by which past controversies should be reconsidered, and some common ground of union laid down. Through successive introductions to Lord Brougham, Lord Normanby, the Archbishop of Paris, and Cardinal Mai, at length the worthy Canon of Durham found himself in the presence of the Pope. The audience lasted about forty minutes, and after the convention his holiness graciously received a written document, setting forth the proposals that were made. The result of the interview might easily have been anticipated. Pius expressed himself favourable to peace and unity, but declared his conviction of the hopelessness of anything being effected at present. Financial and political difficulties would prevent the meeting of such a council; and if they could meet, the differences between the opponents and adherents of the Church were im-

date and irreconcilable. The dissuasive remarks of Dr. Gilly, the historian of the Vaudois, to Dr. Turner before his departure, express the right principle of all such attempts at unity. "I cannot," he said, "believe that any success will reward your zeal. Peace is your object. I am persuaded that truth is the only foundation of Christian union." The laudable motive of the good canon's journey forbids the severity with which we would otherwise criticise the style in which it is recorded. With grandiloquent pomposity, mingled with ludicrous minuteness of detail, every proceeding is chronicled, from the first dawning of the great idea in the library at Durham, till the exit from the Vatican, "bowing to the Pope till the door of the room was reached." All the letters of introduction and notes of appointment are registered, as if they were documentary memoirs to serve as materials for important history. Even the dialogue with Lord Normanby's valet is preserved. "An English valet presented himself. I gave him my card. 'I will take it to his excellency,' he remarked, 'but his excellency I know is much engaged.'" After a few more words, and handing a note from Lord Brougham, "the man took the card and letter, and returned in three minutes, to say the ambassador would see me!" A book written in such a style as this, and showing up conversations with all sorts and conditions of men, from English valets and Italian post-boys, up to Lord Brougham and the Pope, cannot fail to amuse every kind of reader.

Thoughts on Electricity, with Notes of Experiments. By Charles Chalmers. Sutherland and Knox.

WHEN a man of ability attempts to deal with a subject of which he is ignorant, he becomes far more dangerous than a less able person. Electricity is a most unfortunate stumbling-block to our would-be philosophers; we only regret that the daily proof of this, in the shape of lamentable failures made at great cost, does not warn all off the ground who will not examine the rudimentary principles of electrical action. More absolute blindness of the laws which guide this force than that which possesses Mr. Chalmers we never witnessed. His experiments from the first to the last are valueless—his arrangements are imperfect—his deductions false. On his own showing, we are prepared to prove that he never obtains hydrogen from water without oxygen, or oxygen without hydrogen. The drawing which he has given of his arrangements proves that oxygen is escaping from one terminal wire and hydrogen from the other, his metallic diaphragm and electric dissipator offering no interruption to the required circuit.

Gregory of Nazianzum. By Dr. Carl Ullman. Translated by G. V. Cox, M.A., Oxon. Parker.

THE translation here presented is only a half of the work with the above title by Dr. Ullman, Professor of Theology at Heidelberg. Mr. Cox has omitted that part containing the account of the theological writings of Gregory, and gives the biography complete, which, with sufficient reference to his opinions and doctrines, contains much matter of more general interest. That which in the present volume is most valuable, is the insight afforded into the history of the fourth century, and especially the customs and manners and domestic life of those times. The writings of the Fathers, while too much referred to as theological authorities, have been too little used as affording materials of historical research. In this life of Gregory, we read with much interest the story of his early youth, spent in his native village in Cappadocia; his residence as a student at Athens; his entrance into the ministry; and his public labours till his retirement from the Bishopric of Constantinople, and the closing period of his life in his native land. With the public events in which he took prominent part, and especially his connexion with the Second (Ecumenical) Council, and his management of the Byzantine see, all readers of church history are familiar. But to many the glimpses of private life in this volume will have novelty. The chapter on Athenian college life, for instance, is full of interest; the course of study, the habits of the students, even down to the tricks practised towards freshmen, the rivalries of the fraternities from different

countries, and the contests of the pupils of various masters, the friendship with Basil, the acquaintanceship with Julian, and all the other scenes and events of his residence at Athens, are minutely recorded. Without endorsing all the opinions either of Dr. Ullman or his translator, we thank them for a valuable contribution to general as well as to theological literature.

Flowers from the Holy Land, being an Account of the Chief Plants named in Scripture, with Historical, Geographical, and Poetical Illustrations. By Robert Tyas, B.A. Houlston and Stoneman.

THE frequent mention of plants of various kinds in Holy Writ has induced some of our ablest botanists, among others Dr. Royle, to endeavour, by the help of scientific skill combined with Oriental learning, to determine the true species alluded to. In this elegant volume the author endeavours to popularize such researches, and to gather together in a pleasant shape the scriptural history of each flower and tree. The attempt and its execution are worthy of commendation. The book is prettily illustrated, and is well adapted for family reading.

The Temperature of the Seasons and its influence on Inorganic Objects, and on Plants and Animals.

By John Fleming, D.D., Professor of Natural Sciences, New College, Edinburgh. London and Edinburgh: Johnstone and Hunter.

DR. FLEMING is one of our veterans in science, and his name and works enjoy a world-wide reputation. His numerous original researches entitle all that comes from his pen to respect, and it is pleasant to find him descending from his position as a teacher among philosophers, to become an instructor of the young. The attempt to popularize meteorological science, and to show in plain language its connexion with the history of animal and vegetable life, is a worthy one. This book is well adapted for school libraries.

Drops of Water; their Marvellous and Beautiful Inhabitants displayed by the Microscope. By Agnes Catlow. Reeve and Benham.

THIS pretty little volume contains a very interesting account of the shapes, habits, and doings of animalcules, with figures of the principal kinds of these minims of nature, remarkable for clearness and accuracy. Miss Catlow has shown herself familiar with her subject, and by telling what she has herself seen, as well as what eminent naturalists have discovered, secures effectually the interest and attention of the young readers to whom the book is chiefly addressed. There is no surer way of teaching young persons how to observe and reflect than placing a well-written work of small dimensions, such as this is, in their hands, and full grown people who have not time to pursue science deeply, will do well to acquaint themselves with the wonders revealed by the microscope by its perusal.

Illustrations of Mediæval Costume in England. By C. A. Day and J. B. Dines. Bosworth.

THE two first numbers of a work which, as archaeology is now admitted into the boudoir and the drawing-room, will doubtless find favour with many of our fair readers, while the plates, derived from original sources, and coloured in *fac simile*, will not be without use to the artist and student of our national costume.

Vestiges of the Gael in Gwynedd. By the Rev. Basil Jones, M.A. Pickering.

A WORK in which the ancient history and topography of the district of North Wales is handled with good sense and judgment; embracing the subjects of ancient names and authorities, chronology, legends, and traditions of the Gael. It is a good presage for archaeology in the nineteenth century, when Welshmen are found to discuss their history thus dispassionately and candidly.

The Anglican Friar, and the Fish which he took by Hook and by Crook. Darling.

THE author of this comic legend has considerable facility of versifying, and some rough humour; but we doubt even if the patient 'lovers of angling,' to whom the book is dedicated, are sufficiently endowed with that virtue to read through the five thousand and odd lines of which the poem is composed.

The Female Jesuit; or, the Spy in the Family. Partridge and Oakley.

THE heroine of this extraordinary tale introduced herself to a clergyman in London as an orphan, with no near relatives but a Jesuit uncle, and an aunt, also a 'religieuse.' She stated that she had been an inmate of various convents in connexion with the 'Faithful Companions of Jesus,' an order of female Jesuits, for seventeen years. She described herself as having been for two years a postulant in their order, and as about to be removed to Paris, there to take vows from which there could be no escape. Having long been convinced of the errors of Romanism, and having accidentally heard Mr. L——'s name and character, she had contrived with much difficulty to get to him, to throw herself on his kindness for advice. After various inquiries, she found refuge in the clergyman's family, and thence obtained a situation as a governess. She returned to Mr. L's house on account of supposed dangerous illness, and continued there, till a succession of events led to the discovery of a plot, so ingeniously contrived and cleverly sustained, that the narrator can only account for its success on the supposition that the young lady was the agent of a well-organized Jesuit conspiracy. We do not arrive at this conclusion from our consideration of the facts, but we believe that nowhere save in the school of the Jesuits, and nowhere save in convents of that order, could Marie L. G. have acquired much of the skill with which she kept up her imposture. We think that she was acting on her own account, taking advantage of the knowledge of religious feeling and controversy acquired during her convent life. We hardly think that such exposures as she gives of the principles and practices of the Jesuits, and such able refutations of Romish errors, could have been given to Protestants *permissu superiorum*. The book, as now published, consists of three parts. The first contains an account of the laws and mechanism of the 'community' which Marie had quitted, and the narrative of her escape, and her introduction to the clergyman's family. The second part consists of an autobiography of the female Jesuit, written and prepared for publication while at Mr. L's house. The third part narrates minutely her way of life and her history after becoming a professed Protestant, and the discovery of the plot. Any outline of the story we cannot attempt to give, but we commend the volume as one that will afford salutary warnings combined with literary amusement. No fiction could be stranger than the truth of this tale of real life. Supposing Marie to be an agent of others, this narrative confirms the remark of a popular French writer, that, "if there anything is more dangerous than a Jesuit, it is a Jesuitess." Supposing she was acting on her own account, we trust Horsfield and others are on the alert, as there is not a more accomplished and clever impostor on the books of the Mendicity Society. The clergyman and his friends arranged for her being taken to Ghent at her own request. She has been since seen, however, in London, and who and what she is remains a mystery, upon which each reader of this volume and beholder of Marie's pretty face in the frontispiece, will not fail to speculate.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Adams' New Greek Delectus, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
Africa Redeemed, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
Alphabetical Compendium of Scotch Mercantile Sequestrations, 1851, 4to, half bound, 21s.
Bailey's (S.) Theory of Reasoning, 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
Brown and Baylee's Discussion on Infallibility of Church of Rome, 12mo, cloth, 3s.
Brown's Manual of Romanism, 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
Chalmers' (C.) Thoughts on Electricity, third edition, 8vo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
Cobbins' (J.) Bible Remembrancer, second edition, square, cloth, 2s. 6d.
Coleridge's (H.) Essays, 2 vols., 12mo, cloth, 12s.
Cooksley's Map of Rome, 8vo, cloth, 5s.
Curling's Diseases of Rectum, 8vo, cloth, 5s.
— of Testis, 8vo, cloth, 12s.
De Ros' (Lord) Young Officer's Companion, 12mo, half bound, 8s.
Drake's Demosthenes de Corona, post 8vo, cloth, 5s.
English Bee-Keeper, by a Country Curate, 12mo, cloth, 4s. 6d.
Fincham's History of Naval Architecture, royal 8vo, cl., 25s.
Finney's Lectures on Systematic Theology, 8vo, cloth, 16s.

- Gatty's (Mrs. A.) *Fairy Godmother*, 12mo, cloth, 4s. 6d.
 Gilbert's *Visiting Guide to London*, 18mo, cloth, 2s.
 Gleig's *Sacred History*, Part II., 18mo, sewed, 1s.
 ———— *Two Parts in One Volume*, 18mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Greene's (G. W.) *Historical Studies*, 12mo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
 Guide to Government Medicine Chest, 18mo, sewed, 1s.
 Hakewill's (A. W.) *Modern Tombs*, 4to, cloth, 21s.
 Harrington's *Desideratum for the Age, a Masonic Work*, 18mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Hawthorne's (N.) *Twice Told Tales*, 2 vols., 12mo, cl., 10s.
 Holmes' (O. W.) *Poems*, new edition, 12mo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
 Howard on *Loss of Teeth*, 18mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 James's Church in *Earnest*, fourth edition, 12mo, cloth, 4s.
 Kate Derereux, 3 vols. post 8vo, £1 11s. 6d.
 Kitto's (Dr.) *Cyclopedia of Biblical Literature for the People*, 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.
 Lectures Delivered before Church of England Young Men's Society, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Letter to John Bull, by Sir E. B. Lytton, 8vo, sewed, 2s. 6d.
 Lewin's (T.) *Life and Epistles of St. Paul*, 2 vols. post 8vo, cloth, 21s.
 London and its Vicinity in 1851, 12mo, cloth, 9s.
 Longfellow's (H. W.) *Prose Works*, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Manse Gordon, seventh edition, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 May's (T. E.) *Law and Practice of Parliament*, second edition, 8vo, cloth, 21s.
 Meig's (C. D.) *Diseases of Women*, 8vo, cloth, 18s.
 Mercier's (Rev. L. P.) *Selection from Æsop, Xenophon, and Co.*, 12mo, 4s.
 Original Letters and Papers on History of Church in Ireland, edited by E. P. Shirley, post 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.
 Parry's (E.) *Royal Visit and Progresses to Wales*, second edition, 4to, cloth, 21s.
 Pindar, by Cookesley, complete, 2 vols., 8vo, 28s.
 ———— *Part IV.*, 7s. 6d.
 Pitcairn's (Rev. D.) *Zion's King*, post 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.
 Power's (Rev. P. B.) *Sacred Allegories, and other Poems*, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Prescriber's *Pharmacopœia*, fourth edition, 32mo, cl., 2s. 6d.
 Protestant Lectures on Romanism, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Ramsay's *Gentle Shepherd*, 18mo, cloth, 2s. 6d., (gilt 3s.)
 Six Months in a Convent, 18mo, cloth, 1s.
 Stephenson's *Great Exhibition*, 1s.
 Stories for my Young Friends, 18mo, cloth, 2s.
 Tinsley's *Stamp Act*, third edition, boards, 6s. 6d.
 Wakley on *Glycerine*, 8vo, cloth, 3s.
 Westcott on *Gospels*, post 8vo, cloth, 6s. 6d.
 Williams' (Rev. J.) *Plain Sermons on Catechism*, 8vo, cl., 13s.
 ———— *latter part of do.*, 8vo, cloth, 6s. 6d.
 Willmot's (Rev. A.) *Pleasures of Literature*, 12mo, cl., 5s.
 Wright's (Rev. J.) *Britain's Last Struggle*, 12mo, cl., 4s. 6d.

THE EARTH'S ROTATION MADE VISIBLE.

THE experiments which we alluded to in our previous article on this subject have since been successfully repeated on a great scale at the Pantheon in Paris, and we are informed with equal success in Brussels and in Ghent, and at the University of Cambridge. In the course of last week, at a *soirée* given at the Russell Institution, the experiment was tried by Dr. Roget and Mr. Bishop, in the presence of three or four hundred spectators, to their complete satisfaction. We will not, however, undertake to affirm positively that, in the absence of more precise information, that sufficient precautions were taken in this instance to insure the experiment exhibiting what it was supposed to do—viz., an apparent rotation of the plane of the vibration of the pendulum dependent upon the earth's rotation in the contrary direction.

It is just possible that the phenomenon actually witnessed was not that of the earth's rotation, but the more familiar fact of the progression of the apsides of an elliptical orbit of vibration, which would exist equally upon the supposition of the earth remaining perfectly at rest.

It is well known to geometers and mechanicians that if a pendulum be swung out of the vertical plane, so as to describe a sort of oval orbit, the long axis of this orbit will be continually travelling round in the same direction from east to west, or from west to east, as the case may be, in which the pendulous body itself is moving in the orbit. Here, then, is a cause of error which may operate either to counteract or to assist the effect intended to be produced, and which it may not always be easy to guard against. The presence of drafts, any defect in the centering of the weight under the point of suspension, a tremulous movement in the point of suspension itself, any rubbing of the string or wire, or a horizontal jerk communicated to the weight in the act of letting it fall,—all, or any of these causes may conspire either to mask or to exaggerate the effect due to the rotation of the earth. The test of the motion being of the kind proper to be observed, will be the constant return of the pendulum in the

middle of each oscillation to its natural position of rest. We doubt not that all due precautions have been taken to bring this about in the public experiment now taking place in Paris, but how the effect of drafts has been guarded against in so large a space as the area of the Pantheon, and amidst numerous spectators flocking to witness it, we are not informed. It is perhaps rather remarkable, that in the experiments which we believe have been going on for some time in this country under the authority of the Government, to ascertain the extension of metallic wires by the method of counting the number of oscillations of the stretching weight, the phenomenon of rotation should never have displayed itself. The mode of producing an exact circular rotation, devised by M. Bravaes, and alluded to in our previous notice of the subject, is so ingenious, that we think our readers may be interested in having it explained them. The application of it would appear to be entirely free from such difficulties as have been above alluded to, although it might be open to objections of another kind. A light horizontal bar is supposed to project from the side of a vertical shaft, set in motion by a cord wrapped round it and attached to a descending weight. A sphere, suspended obliquely to a fixed point over the revolving shaft, rests upon the end of the bar, and of course revolves with it; as the velocity of the shaft and of the ball increases, the latter presses less and less upon the bar, until, at the moment when it has attained a rate of motion which would carry it round in an exact circle, it ceases to press at all, whereupon matters are so adjusted that the bar drops down by its own weight, and the liberated ball goes on revolving in a true circular orbit. In this mode of conducting the experiment it is the difference of time, according to the direction of the rotation as with or against that of the earth's, which is the subject of observation.

Any one who has noticed how, when a ship rolls, a lamp suspended from the cabin-roof will appear to swing from side to side, whilst in reality it continues to hang vertically, as evidenced by the oil not spilling, will have no difficulty in conceiving how it is that, in the experiment upon the pendulum, the apparent motion of the plane of vibration in one direction is in fact the consequence of the room moving round with the spectator under the pendulum in the contrary direction.

We cannot too earnestly recommend caution to those engaged in verifying and exhibiting experiments connected with this subject. They are of so manifold a character as to invite the attempts of persons, unqualified by previous habits of research and accurate investigation to provide for the conditions necessary to ensure success. We have heard of some experimental cases in which, to the horror of the spectators, the earth has been shown to turn the wrong way.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Paris, April 16.

En attendant the hoped-for adoption of measures for the prevention of literary piracy, the association of French publishers, who have purchased Lamartine's forthcoming 'History of the Restoration,' have determined to bring out an edition specially destined for sale in foreign countries—such edition to be printed (of course) before that intended for France, and to be sold at a less price. They will thus forestall the Belgian and other foreign pirates, and they hope that as their work will be very little dearer than a pirated edition, and infinitely superior in every respect, foreigners will purchase it extensively. The publishers appeal to their brethren in all countries to aid them in this enterprise; as, if it succeeds, it will, even without the intervention of governments, put an end to piracies—at least for important works. It is assumed, I suppose, that the previous publication in each country will give a copyright; but even if it should not, the first sale will at least take the cream of the market from depredators.

I stated some time back that M. Genin had brought out the famous *Chanson de Roland*, with

the assurance that it was the most complete and most correct edition ever published in France. But it now appears that he was not altogether justified in making this statement, as M. Francisque Michel, a professor of the college at Bordeaux, produced a highly esteemed edition seventeen years ago; and as, moreover, M. Genin admits that he never even saw the original of the *Chanson*, which is in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. Between these two gentlemen a good deal of angry correspondence has just taken place on the subject of their conflicting pretensions; but the end of it is the same as that of all similar discussions—ill feeling, and the strengthening of each adversary in his previous opinion. *Appropos* of this song of the valiant knight of old, it may not be generally known that a sort of imitation of it (still very popular among the French) introduced by Alexandre Duval, in his tragedy entitled *Guillaume le Conquerant*, represented in 1803, excited the wrath of Napoleon, because he fancied he found in it a prediction of the failure of his projected descent in England, and because, also, the people loudly applauded a verse which referred to the death of the hero at Roncevaux, and which seemed to him a reflection on himself. He accordingly, to get rid of the song, forbade the performance of the tragedy, and it was only on the pressing entreaties of his wife that he refrained from severely punishing the author. But as always happens in such cases, the more he laboured to stifle the song the more it spread, and the more it was distasteful to him the more it pleased the people.

You are aware that there exist in most of the different provinces of this country societies for publishing, by subscription, rare works illustrative of ancient history, manners, and customs. That of Champagne is perhaps the most enterprising of any. Its publications are already very numerous, and it has just made an important addition to them by reprinting the *chansons* of Count Thibault IV., Lord of Champagne and Brie, and for a time King of Navarre. This is not the first time the songs have been published, but the present edition is more complete and correct than any former one. Thibault is one of the most renowned of the old French poets, and there is a good deal of real poetry in his writings; his language is simple, and in many of his expressions there is great *naïveté*. Most of his ditties are on love, though he was a valiant warrior. He was born in 1201.

As the English public are just now displaying a very laudable anxiety to reproduce rare or quaint old works, why do they not (as I once before ventured to suggest) get up a society for reprinting, with translations and notes, some of the works of the French provincial associations, and others of a like kind? All these possess more or less literary value, and all are decidedly curious:—many, too, refer to personages and events of our own national history. By an outlay of a few score pounds a-year, a rich vein, hitherto unknown, or at least neglected, might thus be opened to the literary world.

The new laws on the press are, as was expected, making sad havoc amongst the newspapers—scarcely a week passes without some one or other being heavily fined for some apparently trifling neglect of the enactments relative to signatures. This week one has been condemned to pay 3000fr. (120*l.*) because the writer of a series of paragraphs, under the same title, but separated by * did not sign every one; and it is an offence punished by 500fr. (20*l.*) fine to separate paragraphs by a simple — without signing each, though when separated by a blank the signature to each is not required. All this seems downright childishness, but it is costing newspaper proprietors and editors a pretty sum. The worst of the thing is, however, that there is no fixed rule—one tribunal deciding that to be innocent which another punishes with fine and imprisonment, and one newspaper being allowed to do that for which another is mulcted.

An attempt was made a few days ago in the National Assembly to obtain the repeal of the law which allows no man to be a printer without a special license of the government, which restricts the number of such privileges according to the

population, and which enables the government to take them away (and thereby ruin the holders) whenever it pleases. The wonder in English eyes will be, that such a law should be in existence in the year of grace 1851, in such a country as France—and under a Republic too. But the wonder is still greater that the legislature, by a large majority, should have refused to repeal it. So it was, however. In the opinion of French lawgivers, society, religion, property, and laws would be endangered if every man were to possess the right of following the trade of a printer as freely as he does that of a grocer or upholsterer. Verily they are not 'Daniels come to judgment.'

The French have at last claimed the honour of having invented the first locomotive; the wonder is that they did not claim it long ago, as they make a rule of representing themselves as the authors of every great invention or discovery in science. A M. Morin, director of the Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers in Paris, has, in a statement to the Académie des Sciences, announced that he has just brought to light a mass of papers which prove that, in 1769, an engineer named Cugnot, a native of Lorraine, invented a locomotive capable of running on common roads, and carrying four persons at the rate of from 3600 to 4000 yards an hour. Funds were provided for forming a model, and the Duke de Choiseul, then Minister of France, interested himself greatly in it. But for some reason, not stated, the thing was neglected. Bonaparte, when First Consul, subsequently took it up; but he also made nothing of it. The model of Cugnot's machine exists in the Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers at Paris.

The annual exhibition of the works of living artists in Paris closed on Sunday. The number of works exhibited were 3150 paintings, 466 sculpture, 107 architectural designs, 131 engravings, and 49 lithographs. The exhibition, on the whole, was not so good as most of those of preceding years. The pictures which attracted most attention were—a huge melodramatic 'Calling over of the last Victims of the Terror,' by Muller; a 'Portrait of the President,' by Horace Vernet; an 'Assumption of the Virgin,' by Gariot, admirable in conception, design, and colouring; also, by the same, a 'Christ and the Samaritan Woman'; a 'Spanish Posada,' by Giraud, a beautiful thing; an 'Interment at Ornus,' by Courbet, vigorously drawn, but rather repulsive; also, by the same, the 'Stonebreakers of the Dubs,' which displayed great power; a 'Sketch from Beranger,' by Couture; 'Lady Macbeth,' by E. Delacroix; a 'Sunday' and a 'Souvenir of Civil War,' by Meissonier; the 'Voluntary Enrolments of 1792,' by Vinchon, a vast piece of canvas; a 'Battle of Koulikovo,' by Yvon, of much power; and many others too numerous to mention. In portraits, Nimmo's 'Portrait of Lord M——' excited great admiration. In sculpture, Count d'Orsay exhibited several busts; Pradier had a charming statuette of Pandora belonging to Queen Victoria; Clesinger several busts, and amongst them two of Rachel in different characters. The engravings proved that the French are progressing rapidly in the art, and that they will soon attain the finish and perfection of the English.

VARIETIES.

Testimonial to Mr. Jerdan.—A meeting was held on Monday last, in the rooms of the Royal Society of Literature, Mr. B. B. Cabbell, M.P., in the chair, to consider of the best means of testifying public respect to Mr. W. Jerdan, for the constant and great services he has rendered to the literature, science, and art of this country, as editor of the *Literary Gazette*, during the long period from its establishment in 1817 to the close of last year. The meeting was well attended by gentlemen connected with literature and science, who all entered warmly into the objects for which they were assembled. It was determined to raise a subscription, to form a fund for the purpose of rendering Mr. Jerdan's declining years as comfortable as possible, and a committee was formed for carrying this object into effect, containing most of the leading names of the literature of the day, such as Bulwer,

Dickens, Hallam, Lockhart, Thackeray, Monckton Milnes, Lover, Douglas Jerrold, Leigh Hunt, Forster, Bell, Mackay, Swain, &c.; among artists, Maclise, Stanfield, Barry, Cruikshank, and Durham; in science, Murchison, Forbes, Grove, Captain Smyth, Francis Ainsworth, and others, with a good sprinkling of nobility and members of Parliament. Mr. Joseph Arden was appointed treasurer, and Mr. Thomas Wright and Mr. John Shillinglaw undertook the duties of honorary secretaries.—*The Times*.

Captain J. D. Cunningham.—We regret to announce the death in India, on the 28th of February, of Captain J. D. Cunningham, author of the 'History of the Sikhs,' brother of Mr. Peter Cunningham, author of the 'Handbook for London,' and eldest son of the late Allan Cunningham. Captain Cunningham had served nineteen years (one half of his life) uninterruptedly in every climate of India. His early death is said to have been mainly occasioned by a sense of dishonour inflicted upon him by the East India Company, in removing him from his post of political agent at Bhopal, for making, what the Court of Directors termed, unauthorised use, in his 'History of the Sikhs,' of official documents, confided to his charge as a public officer. Captain Cunningham is understood to have submitted the manuscript of his work to the Court of Directors for their approval, and to have sent his 'History' into the world in the full belief that he had the Court's permission to make use of the documents, the Court holding him responsible. The revelation in his 'History' of some unpalatable truths connected with Lord Hardinge and the Battle of Sobraon, is said to have been the real cause of his removal from his political employment. Mr. Murray is understood to have had by him, for some time past, a second edition of this interesting work, with the author's corrections and additions, which he has kept back solely at Captain Cunningham's request. There can, however, be no reason now, unfortunately, for its suppression.

The Copyright Question.—Wearied with praying to Jupiter to assist them in driving from the market piracies of their most valuable works, some of the most eminent among the Parisian publishers have put their own shoulders to the wheel, and propose to get rid of them by competition. In a prospectus of the forthcoming 'History of the Restoration,' by Lamartine, circulated among the booksellers of nearly every European capital, the associated proprietors, Messrs. C. Gosselin, Pagnerre, Furne, Lecon, and Lippert, call the attention of their confrères to the fact, that from the number of piratical houses each one can sell but a comparatively small edition, and that for each such edition the cost of setting the types has to be incurred; and they contend that, by printing very heavy editions of valuable works, the large sums paid for copyright will be so minutely divided, that the proportion of each individual book of the cost of the copyright will amount to less than the proportion of each pirated copy of the cost of the printer's composition. They contend, therefore, that by means of a large edition from one setting of the types, they will be able to supply copies of the original and authorized editions of works at such a price that the pirate cannot successfully compete with them. If the European publishers will assist them in the good work of this experiment, the copyright question, so far as the piracy of French books in Europe is concerned, will be settled without the intervention of diplomatists or ministers.

The Operas.—The respective directors have spared no pains to render the pre-Easter performances better than usual, but the terrible influenza has sadly frustrated their good intentions. At Her Majesty's, *Masaniello*, produced under the title of *La Muta di Portici*, with a strong cast, promised to be a great attraction, but the new tenor, Signor Pardini, was seized with hoarseness in the second performance, and, after an apology, gave up to M. Poulter, who sang through the part. Mdlle. Monti, the new mime, excels all predecessors in the part of the dumb sister of *Masaniello*, and is a rare acquisition. M. Massol, the well-known impersonator of *Pietro*, made his *débüt* at this house, and sang with his usual success. At the Royal

Italian Opera, the same opera suffered in a similar way from Tamberlik's illness, and was only given once, the *Semiramide* being substituted for it; and so on Saturday the *Roberto il Diavolo* could not be given for the same reason. Some discontent was shown by the crowded audience, which was only quieted by the splendid singing of Grisi and Mdlle. Angri, who exerted all their powers to make us forget the disappointment. The season commences now in great force. At Her Majesty's Theatre, Mdlle. Duprez is to sing the charming part of *Adina*, with the renowned *Dulcamara* of Lablache. Sontag will follow in the new opera *Le Tre Nozze*, and the new soprano, Mdlle. Alaymo, in *Lucresia*, with Gardoni as the *Gennaro*. Carlotta Grisi, Rosati, and Ferraris will appear together in the ballet. At Covent Garden, Mario returns to us in the unrivalled *Huguenots*, and Beethoven's only opera, *Fidelio*, will follow immediately, we presume with Grisi, for Madame Viardot cannot of course leave Paris just as the *Sapho*, by Gounod, is being performed.

French Plays.—Mr. Mitchell has issued a tempting prospectus of a series of fifteen representations of French comedy and vaudeville. On Monday week he opens the season with M. Scribe's new comedy, *Bataille de Dames*, in which MM. Regnier and Lafont, and Mesdames Judith and St. Marc will appear; to be followed on the same evening by a new comic vaudeville, entitled *L'amour à l'aventure*, with M. Hyacinthe and Mdlle. Schrivaneck. Engagements are also made with MM. Roger, Ravel, and Levassor. Mdlle. Rachel is announced to appear on the 2nd of June.

Mdlle. Crivelli.—A young lady of this name, well known during the last two or three years in the theatres of Italy and Germany, has just made a great hit at the Théâtre Italien, at Paris. She appeared in *Ernani*, and her voice, which is both powerful and sweet, her originality, which is very striking, her dramatic power, which is far greater than is generally seen on the Italian stage, and lastly, her youth and beauty, all united in securing her the enthusiastic applause of her fashionable and artistic auditories. She is German by birth, a native of Bielefeld, in Prussia. On the conclusion of the Paris season, we are to have the pleasure of hearing her in London.

Easter Entertainments.—The Haymarket announces a new comic drama, by Brough Brothers, called *Arlene, or the Bohemian Girl*. Drury-Lane introduces a five-act romance founded on Schiller's *Robbers*. The Princess's Theatre has a piece of grand display called the *Alhambra*. The Lyceum re-opens with a new extravaganza by Mr. Planché, entitled *The Queen of the Frogs*. The Olympic has a new drama with the name of *Sir Roger de Coverley*; and the Adelphi announces a new comical fairy drama, called *O'Flannigan and the Fairies*.

Barford's Panorama re-opens on Monday with two charming new paintings by Mr. Selous—the *Falls of Niagara* and the *City of Jerusalem*. The first impresses the observer with a grand idea of that stupendous cataract; the latter contains a multitude of detail extremely interesting to those who desire to learn something of the Scripture localities of the renowned city.

Gallery of Illustration.—The three paintings to be added on Monday to the exhibition of the Overland Mail to India are charming specimens of panoramic art. They represent three views of the celebrated mausoleum, *Taj Mahal*, well known to Anglo-Orientalists. The first is a view of the exterior of the building from the opposite bank of the Jumna. It is seen by moonlight, with an effective group of figures in the foreground, assembled round a fire. The second view represents the Kalan Durwasa gateway of red granite, as seen from the garden, in which there are some remarkably characteristic groups of figures. The bright colours of the female dresses, and the turbaned males, intermingled with the foliage, the water-pools, and fountains, are extremely picturesque. In the third view the interior of the building is shown. In the centre is the Emperor Shah Jehan's tomb, surrounded with an elaborately carved white marble screen, inlaid with agates and jewels in mosaic. From the ceiling are suspended several lamps,

which are represented to be lit. Those especially who have visited this magnificent Asiatic temple will be delighted with the artist's faithful and spirited illustration of it.

The Sports of Neptune.—A novel display of ornamental fire and water was exhibited to private view on Wednesday, at the St. James's Theatre. M. Saqui, the proprietor, has a raised fountain in the middle of the stage, upon which he fixes various kinds of jets and other forms of apparatus, so constructed as to spread the water into different patterns. These are intended to represent such objects as a cage, wine-glass, China vase, umbrella, basket, &c. We must confess that, as imitations, the resemblances are rather far-fetched, but some capital effects were produced by inserting within the water-pattern a burning blue or red light. The drollest experiment was that of placing upon the fountain a half-figure of an old gentleman in cap and morning gown, which M. Saqui called the *Malade Imaginaire*. According to the force with which the exhibitor turned on the water, the figure rose into the air upon the apex of the column of fluid, and turned round and about, to the great amusement of the audience. Another similar experiment was performed with the figure of a Chinese juggler, in which the force of the column of water imparted motion to the arms and legs; and a bottle was raised on the jet of water in like manner, with a blue light burning from the aperture. The exhibition is a very novel one, and somewhat amusing.

The Golden Age.—The Worcester Journal, in making use of our announcement that a play of Mr. Douglas Jerrold's has been accepted by the Princess Theatre, at the price of three hundred guineas, stated the sum at three thousand guineas. We wish, for the interests of literature, and for Mr. Jerrold's sake, that it was so.

London and Copenhagen.—The journey from London to the Danish capital was performed last week by a correspondent of *The Times*, via Lowestoff and Jutland, in four days. The mail is now to be dispatched by this route every Saturday; and as soon as arrangements are completed for expediting the means of conveyance between Jutland and Copenhagen, the journey will occupy only three days. We shall soon be within a week of St. Petersburg.

Industrial Exhibition.—We find it announced in the German official papers, that, on the invitation of the British Government, detachments of Prussian and Belgian police, and of the police of other continental states, will be stationed in London during the Exhibition, to assist our own force in the surveillance of suspected foreigners.

M. Jacobi.—In announcing (p. 207) the death, at Berlin, of M. Jacobi, we stated that he was the well-known electrician of St. Petersburg; we now learn that it was the eminent mathematician of that name, author of the 'Fundamenta Nova.'

Mr. C. Roach Smith has been elected a corresponding member of the National Antiquarian Society of France.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday.—Chemical, 8 p.m.
Tuesday.—Medical and Chirurgical, 8½ p.m.—Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.—Zoological, 9 p.m.—Syro-Egyptian, 7½ p.m.
Wednesday.—Antiquaries (Anniversary), 2 p.m.
Thursday.—London Institution (Anniversary), 7 p.m.
Saturday.—Medical, 8 p.m.—Royal Botanic, 3½ p.m.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. H. D.—Any of the Portraits may be procured on application, by letter, to George Ransome, Esq., Ipswich.

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Her Majesty having been pleased to grant her gracious permission for the Royal Medal to be conferred on such distinguished Architect or Man of Science, of any Country, as may have designed or executed any building of high merit, or produced a work tending to promote or facilitate the knowledge of Architecture, or the various branches of Science connected therewith,
That the Council do proceed in January, 1852, to take into consideration the appropriation of the Royal Medal accordingly.

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That the Silver Medals of the Institute be awarded to the Authors of the best Essays on the following subjects:—
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44, West Strand, April 16, 1851.

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